

4. Polit. Pamphlet. vol 117. S

LETTER

To a certain EMINENT
BRITISH SAILOR.

Occasion'd by his SPECIMEN of
NAKED TRUTH.

From a zealous Assertor of his Merit, and
sincere Well-wisher to his Person.



L O N D O N:

Printed for M. MOORE, near St Paul's,
M. DCC XLVI.

[Price Six-pence.]

LETTER

To a young Gentleman

BRITISH SAILOR

Occasioned by his Services to

THE NATIONAL BANK



London, December 10, 1803.

London:

Billing for M. Moore, December 6, 1803.
W. DODGE.

[Price Six-pence]

LETTER

To a certain EMINENT
BRITISH SAILOR.

SIR, — H^OW I do not intend at this
Time to make myself known to
you, I think myself obliged to
take some Notice of your late
Performance. — This rather, be-
cause since you have been pleased to acquit
the Secretary, upon his Gentleman-like Apo-
logy, (a) from having his Pen ting'd with
Gall flowing from his own Mind; (b) I am
not sure you do not consider me as that ma-

B *licious*

(a) Vide Specimen, &c. p. 24. (b) *ibid.*

licious and industrious Agent, by whose operative Malice you have been hunted out of your Command (c). Leaving you, however, to your own Conjectures on that Head, and to the Expectation of that happy Providence which in the Course of Time is to make the Discovery, I shall proceed with all the Temper I am Master of, and with that due REGARD to your Merit and Person I have profess'd in my Title.

Having mentioned my own Title, you must indulge me the making a few Remarks on yours; you must forgive me if in the Affection that appears in it (which you, Sir, I doubt not, intend we should take for a Token of your Humility) I think I discover, without the Assistance of Time or Providence, a Specimen of that Pride and Self-sufficiency which the World esteems the greatest Blemish in your Character.

or be gildo illym and I joy
A British Sailor! That you are so, and
an excellent one too, the whole British Na-
tion acknowledges, and the Enemies of Bri-
tain have severely felt.—But does not every
Tar in his Majesty's Service, who under-
stands his Business, deserve the same Title?
—
Why

(c) Vide Specimen, p. 23.

Why then is it so peculiarly assumed by Mr.
 * * on the present Occasion? Does not
 this British Sailor intend we should know
 him to be that *faithful, zealous, and diligent*
Officer (d), by whose *prudent Conduct* (e) the
 Enemy were prevented from Sailing, either
 from *Dunkirk* or *Ostend*? Whose *Disposition*
 was the Cause that none of his *Majesty's Ships*
 were *wreck'd* (f), and who all along acted
prudently and successfully in his *Majesty's*
Service? Give me leave then, Sir, to advise
 you, when next you take on yourself the
 Title of *Sailor*, to change the Article *a* into
the: *THE British Sailor*, Sir, will as emi-
 nently distinguish you from all other *British*
Sailors, as his Royal Highness the Duke is
 distinguished from all other *Dukes* by leaving
 out the Name of the County from whence
 he is denominated. *Monsieur* is a Term of
 civil Address in *French*, which is used to all
 Men indifferently: But when a *Frenchman*
 tells you emphatically, *Monsieur* said or did
 such a Thing, we should know he means the
 Duke of *Orleans*. So why may not Ad—l
 * * be for the future distinguished from all
 other Ad—ls by calling him, *THE A—l*,
 and from all other Sailors by calling him, *THE*
Sailor?

B 2

I am

(d) Vide Specimen, p. 22.

(e) ibid p. 6.

(f) ibid p. 7.

I am mistaken, Sir, if something like this was not in your own Mind, when you chose this diminutive Name. Just as the Pope, when he trod on the Necks of Kings, and brought Emperors to his Footstool, would at the same time, in writing to those very Monarchs, sign himself *the Servant of the Servants of God* (g).

The common Tars, I doubt not, were very well pleased, as the Mob was on Land, with the familiar Compellation of *Brother Sailors*, which you used in your Letter to the Privateer Captains, and caused to be published with such Ostentation a little before you resign'd. But if you had, at the same Time, treated these *Brother Sailors* with a little less Rigour, a little more Temper and Gentleman-like Carriage, the better Part of them, the Officers, most of whom were Gentlemen as well as yourself, would have been much more satisfied.

The Consideration of this rough Behaviour, for which you are said to be remarkable, obliges me to observe, that a Man so exceedingly fond of absolute Power in himself, how

(g) *Servus Servorum Dei*. The common Form of Words used by the Roman Pontiffs before their Names at the End of their Letters.

great forever his Zeal may be for the Religion and Constitution of his Country, cannot be deemed altogether so seemly a Guardian of Protestantism and Liberty, (tho' perhaps he may be as safe,) as a Man who has in himself more Generosity and Moderation.

When you were in the *West Indies*, the People of *England*, and I among the rest, were very unwilling to believe the Charges brought against you, on Account of your Rigour, both by Officers and Seamen. The brave Conqueror of *Porto-Bello* with six Ships only, he that had destroyed the Forts of *Cartagena*, and given us a Holiday for an Affair that by the next Express put us all in Mourning, we could not think subject to any Meanness either of Heart or Temper. In short, we could hardly allow you the common Imperfections of human Nature. The Merit of doing something in a War, which slept in every Commander's Hands but yours, was enough to endear you to all *Englishmen*. At the last general Election, you might have been Member, I believe, for almost half the Boroughs in *England*. It was a Kind of Petty Treason to give Ear to the least Insinuation to your Disadvantage, which would, at that Time, have been more severely resented in most

most public Companies, than disaffected Expressions against his Majesty himself.

You cannot be insensible, Sir, that we carry'd you in our Pockets upon Medals, that we had you chased on the Heads of our Canes, that a Print of you either from Copper or Wood was seen in every House, that we formed Societies in your Name, and that even the Ladies wore you in their Fans and Snuff-boxes: Nay, we had like to have made an annual Festival on your Birth-day, equal to Gun-powder Treason, or King Charles's Restoration; and we were one Year so very zealous in the Affair, that we kept two Days, upon a Presumption that we were wrong in the first of them. All these are Matters, I doubt not, concerning which you have taken Care to have good Information.

I should have mentioned, among the other Tokens of Approbation and Applause, that most august one of all, the Thanks of both Houses of Parliament, transmitted to you into America; an Honour which the great Duke of Marlborough used to profess he esteem'd among the highest he could receive, and which his Friends could not obtain for him in the last Years of his Service.

from

But

But the Duke of Marlborough was a Man of exalted Genius, and most happy Temperament, equally Master of himself under all the Vicissitudes of Life and Fortune. He was able to bear with Moderation the great Burthen of immoderate Praise, which would have weighed down most other Men. I am afraid, Sir, it was laid on too heavily upon you : For you will excuse me if, notwithstanding my high Opinion of your Merit as an Officer, I do not think you altogether so patient of either Prosperity or Adversity as the Duke of Marlborough. Your not being so is the very Thing that has hurt you. It rendered you haughty in Command, and reproachful when out of it. These Minds of ours, Sir, are more difficult to command than Fleets or Armies : If we have not Care, very great Care, they grow uncontrollable, and turn that Respect and Veneration they hunt after into Jealousy and Contempt. Do you not think, Sir, upon cool Reflection, that if you had practised that Austerity upon yourself in your highest Elevation, which others too sensibly felt, you had still preserved the Character which all the World so willingly bestowed?

At the Time I speak of, in your Meridian of Glory, it was natural to fall in with the general

general Cry. Of such a Man, a Man to whom Senatorial Wisdom had decreed Laurel's; who could believe any Thing amiss? It was treated as a Fable; therefore, when the Report came that the Ad——l's Inflexibility, as well as the G——l's bad Conduct, contributed to the Miscarriage at *Cartagena*; that his Expedition to *Cuba* was not so well conducted, nor so wisely conducted, as we had been taught to expect; and that the King's Service was more than once retarded, and a general Odium brought upon those engaged in it, thro' the haughty and insulting Carriage of Him who ought to have conciliated to himself all Parties.

But so it happened, there was a Gentleman at that Time in the *West-Indies*, and in a high Station too, who had almost as much popular good Opinion as Mr. * * himself. It was for such a Man only to undeceive the Public, with Regard to the Favourite, they had idolized. The benevolent, humane, public-spirited Mr. *T——l*, who had signaliz'd his Government by reducing to Friendship the Rebel Negroes, that could not before be kept in Obedience, was a Character that commanded some Credit even in a Dispute with Mr. * *.

And

664

And yet so strongly were we prejudiced in your Favour, that tho' the Publication of the Quarrel between Sir *Ch*——r *O*——e and this Governor, (a Quarrel blown up by you) opened the Eyes of some with regard to your Character, so few were there who attended to these Means of Conviction, and so little zealous were they who did to convince others so much against the Grain, that I question if one in twenty of my Readers will remember that ever such a Thing appeared in Print. However, it behoves me to revive it here, that what I say may not be supposed to be the Effect either of Malice or Invention. For this Purpose I shall insert your Letter to the Governor, with his Answer, and an historical Note that was added to them at the Time of their Publication, to give an Idea of what was then thought, by so good a Judge as Mr. *T*——y, of the humble Mr. * * (b).

(b) *Gen. Mag.* for 1743, March 159. I quote this Collection because I have not by me the original Pamphlet in which these Pieces were published.

A---V---, to the Governor of
J----a, Oct. 4, 1742.

SIR,

I Have received your Excellency's Favour of the 2d ult. and was pleased to find our Resolutions met with your Approbation, tho' you have not thought proper to favour us with your Company in concerting them. As I am now speedily going to leave this Island, and think it my Duty to give my Advice in what appeared to me so necessary for his Majesty's Service, you will be so good as to excuse me on this Occasion, tho' I give my Advice unasked for, since that is the principal Motive to it.

Your Excellency knows I was present, both at the Transaction and Trial, you thought proper to have Sir Ch——r O——e summoned to for an * Assault; and

* The Affair is thus related from the Governor's Deposition at the Trial of Sir Ch——r O——e, before the Chief Justice and four Assistants, Sept. 3. 1742.

After an Entertainment and a Council of War in the Governor's House, General Wentworth and Brigadier Blakeney being withdrawn, the Governor, who waited on them out, return'd with a Memorial put into his Hands by the Master of a Northern Vessel, complaining of his best Men being impress'd, which, the

and being convinced from both, and all I have since heard mention it, that you was the Aggressor, both in Word and Deed ; and considering likewise its being in your own House, I own it is a Matter of Surprize to me, that you have never since thought of making that Apology to Sir Cb—r for such indecent Expressions of Passion, which is what I cannot but say you ought to do : And as I well know Sir Cb—r's generous and humane Nature, I am persuaded, in regard

two Admirals only being left, he thought proper to shew them. Ad—l V—n said, if the Man expect—ed Redress he should apply to him ; but as the Paper was not signed by any Name, it deserved no Notice ; and that he supposed the Complaint was promoted by one Dicker, a malicious troublesome Fellow, who had propagated Scandal against him (the Ad—l). The Governor calmly said, that he believed him an honest Man, acting without any malicious Motive, and from a Concern only for Trade. The Ad—l reply'd, *Those are Chimeras of yours ; I desire to be troubled no more with them.* The Governor returned, *You shall not. This is not the first Affront, and I desire not to be troubled with more of your Chimeras.* Here Sir Cb—r O—e interrupted and said, *This Dicker is a Scoundrel ana a Rascal.* The Governor answered, *The Man does not deserve such Treatment.* Sir C—r moving himself with his Chair, repeated the Words in a Passion. To which the Governor said, with his usual Temper, *He is no such Person ; he is no more a Scoundrel than Sir C—r O—e.* This Sir C—r resenting, repeated, and laid his Hand on his Sword ; on which the Governor attempted to draw, apprehending his Life in Danger ; but was prevented by Ad—l

gard to his Majesty's Service, he would make no Difficulty of accepting a Gentleman-like Apology, in order to your carrying on the King's Service with that Harmony which ought to subsist between Officers in the Service of the same Prince.

I have suggested what I thought would be most to your Credit, as well as his Majesty's Service. If it proves a happy Means of Reconciliation, I shall be rejoiced at it; and, I thought, I could not decently leave the Island without suggesting to you my Thoughts of it.

I am, &c.

The GOVERNOR's Answer.

SIR,

Oct. 5, 1742.

I Have received your Letter of Yesterday's Date, and as I am entirely of your Opinion, that Harmony ought to subsist between Officers

V—n, which put him in so violent a Rage, that he could not remember what he said.

On the other Side, Admiral *V—n* deposed, that the Words were spoken; but that the Governor was in a Passion, and first drew his Sword; and therefore he seized him as the dangerous Person, and the Assailant: On whom keeping his Eyes, he owned, that he could not see what Posture Sir *Ch—r* was in. And therefore the Jury gave a Verdict against Sir *Ch—r O—e*, as guilty of the Assault.

Officers of the same Prince, there is nothing I am so desirous of, as that it should do so between Sir Ch——r O——e and myself; to which nothing shall be wanting on my Part, and I hope and persuade myself Sir Ch——r O——e will not be wanting on his. For this Reason I propose Sir Ch——r and I should suspend all Thoughts of the late unhappy Affair till we are out of our respective Stations, so as we may not talk or even think of it till then, taking no more Notice of it, than if nothing had happened: For as to Apology, the Case will admit of none on either Side. If any Dislike should remain with either of us, we may have an Opportunity of shewing it when we return to our private Stations: Now we belong to the King, we should think of his Affairs only, abstracted from all private Considerations whatever.

It is Matter of great Surprize to me, how such a Thing could happen between us two. It could not have happened, *if you had not set us a-going.* Nothing like it can happen, I persuade myself, when *you are gone.* For then I dare say we shall agree as we ought in carrying on his Majesty's Service, as far as we may be concerned together, without any Regard but to that Service, without any Reference to what is past, without any Animosity or Ill-will. I can answer for myself, and

and I have the same good Opinion of Sir *Ch——r*. Of myself I am sure; for you have put me to the Proof MORE THAN ONCE. I have never of late met in Council, but with a Dread of some Rudeness from you, past the Power of bearing. It is a Pleasure to me to speak my Mind, now that you are going; Thanks to his Majesty! and I am glad his Service requires my dissembling Injuries no longer. When you first came, I thought you warm for your *Country's Honour*, and on that Account was even subservient to you in what little I could assist: But since your Expedition to *Cuba*, you have shewn yourself in a different Light. Your private Resentment and Animosity have risen so high, that you have sacrificed, in my Opinion, your *Country's*, and even your own *Honour*, to those wrong Passions, acting not in Concert and Harmony, (as you think right for Sir *Ch——r* and me to do) with your Fellow-Servants for the publick Good, but as an *Enemy*, out of Spite to them, to your King and Country.

Yours, &c.

Upon reading of these Letters, with the Narrative subjoined, I must own I am far from having that Idea of a modest and humble Character which the *British* Sailor seems so desirous of obtaining. On the contrary,

trary, I see an assuming contumelious Officer, disturbing and confounding, by his over-bearing Spirit, all that Harmony and Unanimity which is ever so necessary among Associates in the Service of the same Prince. I conceive him, by tyrannical and oppressive Methods of taking away their Men, aggrieving the Merchants and Masters of Ships in the most sensible Part; then turning a deaf Ear to all their Complaints, insulting them for endeavouring to complain, and affronting a Gentleman in high Trust under the Government, as well as himself, for modestly attempting to interpose in their Behalf. Another Officer, his Inferior in the same Service, thinks himself in Honour obliged to take the Part of his Superior, and is induced by his Zeal to do it a little too warmly. The Chief inflames the Dispute, till it is at last in Danger of becoming fatal, and is attended with no less Consequence than bringing one of the Parties to answer the other in a Court of Judicature.

But the pleasantest Part of all is yet to come. When this great Lord Paramount is going to depart, and there is like to be no more Danger of Offence, because there will be no Body to provoke, he takes upon him unask'd, and with a Kind of Authority, to *advise* what should be done towards healing a Breach which himself had contributed to make: And this Advice too is contrary to the Opinion

nion of a Court, which had found Sir *Cb—r* guilty of the Assault; whereas 'tis the Opinion of our great Adviser, that the Complainant, who had applied to Justice for Redress, should ask Pardon of the Defendant, who had been convicted of the Affront alledged.

I was going to bring in a similiar Case from a Quarrel that might be supposed to happen among three Boys: But fearing you would think the Comparison too low for such great Characters, I shall only observe farther on this Affair, that if you, Sir, were surprized that the Governor in these Circumstances did not make any Apology to Sir *Cb—r*, I am apt to believe every Body else would have been surprized if he had done it.— Observe, I do not enter into the Merit of the Cause between these two Gentlemen, there being no Body, as I can find, but yourself, who had the Power of knowing those, and you being too much a Party to exercise that Power freely: I only take the Thing as it appeared after the Trial was over, and so far as this Interposition of yours was concerned.

I should have beg'd Pardon for dwelling so long on this Story, had it not been necessary to display your Disposition, and support some other Thing that I may advance.

In the Contest between you and Mr. *W—*, concerning the Affair of *Carthagena*, the World was exceeding partial to

your

your Side : But it is now pretty much the Opinion, that if the Prepossession had been equal in Favour of you both, or if there had been no Prepossession on either Side, as much Matter for Justification would have been found in the (*i*) *Journal of that Expedition*, as in the *Account*.

But I have nothing to do with the Merit of Mr. W——. He may deserve all that has been charged to his Account by the warmest *V-nians*, and yet Mr. * * not be excusable in every Thing that was done before *Carthagena*. If, for Instance, he was always untractable in Council when he deigned to be present, or haughtily refused to give his Opinion, that he might have the more Room for Crimination in Case of a Miscarriage, I think his Behaviour was altogether as liable to Censure as the Inexperience of the General. Nay, it was even a less excusable Fault, because entirely his own ; whereas the Deficiency of the other ought rather to be ascribed to those who sent him, and who should have known better.

And that something like this really pass'd we had Assurance at the Time, tho' we did

D not

(*i*) Two Pamphlets published soon after the A——'s Return Home, in Opposition to each other.

not incline to believe it. The Land Officers, almost to a Man, were in the same Tone, and the Seamen were not so warm as might have been expected in the Vindication of our favourite A——— I. We were incredulous, indeed; but that was not the Fault of our Informers.

Here, Sir, I must do you the Justice to own, that I look upon one Report propagated against you to be a wicked Calumny. The Story of a Boat's going to the Town, while you lay in the Harbour, and coming back again much richer than she departed, deserves, I sincerely believe, to be treated with Contempt and Indignation, because of the Insinuation it carries, that *Carthagena* might have been taken if you had pleased. You are a much honester Man, surely, whatever Weaknesses may attend you on the Side of Passion, than to sacrifice the Service of your Country for the Sake of Gain. And even had you not been so, can any one persuade me that much more might not have been got by sacking so rich a City, the second for Wealth in all America, than by accepting of a certain stipulated Sum?

But why, Sir, should it be expected that a Land Officer, who saw himself at the Head of an Army, would bear Controul more than an Officer of another Province, who had not over him any natural or legal

Com-

Command? If any such Thing was expected on your Side, and we must ascribe to it the Disunion of Councils, which manifestly appeared; who are we most to blame, you for so unreasonable an Expectation, or the Land Officer for not satisfying it?

Upon the whole then, Sir, I think we may fairly conclude, that when, upon your Return from the *West-Indies*, you were laid aside, and your Rank was afterwards refused to be given you in a Promotion of A—ls, it was not because either your Honesty or Loyalty was distrusted, nor because either your Courage or Capacity was despised; but for this single Reason only, that you were of an untractable and assuming Temper; incapable of winning the Love and Affection of those you commanded, or of submitting properly to the Directions of those who were to command you. — If you consider coolly, Sir, you must acknowledge, that a Man so disposed, how great soever be his Experience and Zeal, cannot prudently and honourably be employed, unless it were thought proper to discharge him from all Subjection. And before that could be decently done, it would certainly be highly necessary to dissolve the Board of Adm—y, and constitute him L—d H—h A—l. Yes, sir, as L—d H—h A—l the *British Sailor*

British Sailor might shine, and, for ought I can foresee, would make a greater Figure in our Annals, for desperate Atchievements, than any Man has done since the immortal *Blake*.

But, from what I know of their L--dships Sentiments, or have heard of his M——y's, there is not at present any Design on Foot of investing you with that great Character. The absolute Command of the *British Fleet*, the greatest Naval Power in the Universe, is a Matter of such Consequence, that it has not for a great while been thought convenient to have any Sea Dictator; and perhaps it will never be thought so again, unless some Prince of the Blood, in the present rising numerous Family, should be honoured with that Commission some Years hereafter. And I will do you the Justice, Sir, to say, that I actually believe you so self-denying, as in this Case, if it were put to you, rather to prefer the Prince to that honourable Distinction than even Yourself.

Indeed, if a L — d H — gh A——l were to be created To-morrow, to speak plainly my own Opinion, I should not think you the most proper Person for that Office; notwithstanding that Courage, Experience, Vigilance, and Zeal, which I have all along acknowledged you possess. L — d H — gh A——l * * *, I conceive, would carry

carry those haughty superior Airs I have been mentioning higher than they were carried by V— A——l * *, or by Mr. * *, A——l of the White. Who can tell what he might do, in his peevish vindictive Fits, if he should think himself affronted even by his M——y himself? I should not imagine all his present Virtue and Loyalty a sufficient Security.

That you were employed again, Sir, as an Ad——l under Direction, after your complaining Letter to Mr. S——y C——tt, and the Skill you had shewn in your Letter about Ship-building, had been able to produce no Effect, was owing, as yourself acknowledge, to the good Opinion of that noble Patron, who now presides at the B----d of A——y. His G——e was willing, perhaps, to see if your Merit would at last shine without your Foible; if under Men you professed so much to revere, and of whose Wisdom and Integrity you had such an high Opinion, you would be more tractable and docile, than you had been under Men you contemned, and accused of *Degeneracy* (*k*) from their noble Ancestors. But if upon this Trial you appeared again haughty, self-sufficient, uncommunicative, irregular, did it become the
Dignity

(*k*) Vide Letter dated from *Nation*, June 30, 1744,
and printed in the Papers.

Dignity of the honourable B---d to continue you in Command? Did not that Dignity even require their L---ps, in order to preserve the Authority annex'd to it, to act in the very Manner they did, --- to recall you?

One hardly knew, indeed, for some Time past, whether it was his M----y's Fl---t you commanded; and even the Collection I am now remarking on, so industriously propagated in your Justification, does not prove you considered it as entirely his? --- If you did, why such Words as these so often repeated?—*My Cruizers!—My great Ships!—My Frigates!* — The great Duke of Marlborough, beforementioned, did not talk in this Manner, even when he sent Advice of the important Victory of Blenheim. He was content to inform Mr. Secretary Harley, by a Billet written upon the Pommel of his Saddle, that *Her Majesty's Arms had obtained a most glorious Victory, and that Marshal Tallard was now in his Coach.*

But lest you should not think a Land Commander a proper Example for the Stile of an Ad---l, I have been endeavouring to find Instances in your own Province. When Sir George Rooke, and Sir Cloudefly Shovel, *that brave, honest, and experienced Sir Cloudefly Shovel, under whom you served as a Lieutenant, who was an Honour to his Country and the Service, and whom you believe*

lieve no Man knew that did not love and esteem him (*l*): When these Gentlemen sent their separate Accounts of the famous Sea-Fight off of *Malaga*, they were content to talk of the Ships in general as if they belonged to the Queen, and did not use the Words, *I, me, or mine*, except when they mentioned what regarded their own particular Conduct or Action.

You give some little Reason, I must own, for your Egotisms with regard to the *Cruizers*, when you tell the S——y that they were engaged in the Crown's Service at *your* Recommendation, and in good Part by *your* Influence (*m*): But if this Recommendation and Influence gave you any Property in the *Cruizers*, surely it did not the same in His Majesty's great Ships and Frigates.

Reing now got upon your last Subject of Complaint and Reproach (Subjects in which, it must be owned, you have been more fertile than any other Servant of the Crown,) I shall only ask a few more Questions, having no Design to enter minutely into a Conduct which I had much rather be able to justify than condemn.

First, With regard to these Cruizers, Did you not more than recommend and influence ?

(*l*) Vide *Specimen of Naked Truth*, &c. p. 26.

(*m*) *Ibid.* p. 5.

ence? Did not you even unprecedently employ, before you had any positive Instructions for so doing?

Secondly, Did you always regularly and properly correspond with the B---d, so as to give them a clear and distinct Knowledge of your Motions and Intentions?

Thirdly, Were you not sometimes imposed upon in your Intelligence? And did you not act rather in Consequence of what you received yourself, than of what was communicated to you with better Authority?

Fourthly, Did not this Wilfulness give some Ground to question (as you insinuate they were questioned) your Diligence and Ability? or rather, was not this Wilfulness alone, in Spite of your Skill and Vigilance, a sufficient Disqualification?

Fifthly, Might not the acting from your own Judgment, when other Intelligence was sent you, that, for aught you knew, might be better, have at one Time or other proved detrimental to the Service?

Lastly, Whatever was your own Opinion with regard to the making of a Gunner, or whatever might be the Opinion of the other Ad---ls you appeal to, Did not Duty require you to conform to Laws already established, till you found an Opportunity of getting them amended or altered?

I have

I have now, Sir, done with one of the most disagreeable Tasks I ever engaged in. You may believe me when I say this, for it comes from my Heart : And I can with Pleasure reflect, after all, that Mr. * *, notwithstanding his Weaknesses, cannot fail of making a considerable Figure in English History : Yes, the inflexible Patriot, the undaunted unwearied Officer, the blunt honest Man, will be remember'd with Honour, in Spite of those Frailities that were a Bar to his being always employed.

Having carried my Thoughts into Future, I am, unawares, led to consider how such a Character, as I have been criticising on, will be hereafter drawn by the Historians of the present Reign : I do not mean the flattering Historians, who draw only beautiful Likenesses, but such as *Burnet*, who gives us a Picture of almost every Man he mentions, without shewing the least Mercy to his Deformities. Shall I attempt the Sketch beforehand, that you may consider it well, and, if you think it necessary, endeavour to correct some Features, before Time takes in Hand his Pencil ?

" Mr. * * was early in the Service of his
 " Country, thro' the Interest of his Father,
 " who had been S——ry of S---e. He was
 " always esteemed a brave and gallant Officer,
 " but too austere in his Manners to win

Love, and too fastidious in his Temper to
 court Favour. In the House of C——ns
 he had sometimes spoken with an Elo-
 quence suited to those Qualities. He had
 never obtained a Fl-g, if he had not been
 thought the most proper Man in the King-
 dom for the Service then wanted. His
 Behaviour at the Beginning of the *Spanish*
 War, made him the Idol of the People ;
 But Haughtiness and Severity to those un-
 der him, Want of Condescension to those
 above him, and a Sort of Pre-eminence
 assumed over his Equals, occasioned him
 to give some kind of Disgust to all with
 whom he had any Concern. He would
 have been the first Ad—l of the Age, if
 his Opinion of his own Merit had not out-
 run that of the Public, and if this Opin-
 ion had not tinctured all his Thoughts
 and Actions with a Contempt of other
 Men. In a Word, something of the Sea-
 man might have been spared, in order to
 finish the Gentleman ; something of the
 Master, in order to qualify the Servant ;
 something of the Self-sufficient, in order
 to make all Mankind acknowledge the
 real Sufficiency.

Having risen thus into the Stile of an
 Historian, I had almost forgot I was writing
 a Letter, and had like to have drop'd my
 Pen

P O S T S C R O P P I T

Looking once more over the Specimen of
Naked Truth, while these Pages were
at Presb., I perceived my self guilty of one
great Omission in the Remarks I had made
upon that Pamphlet. Let me quote the
Passage I have in View, to avoid the Charge
of Misrepresentation.

I propose being in London by Tuesday or Wednesday Night; whenever it is, I shall be at your G--ce's Door the next Morning after my Arrival, in order to pay my Duty to your G--ce, and afterwards, before I set out for Suffolk, (if it has your G--ce's Approbation) to be presented by you to pay my Duty to his M--sty. And the Favour I shall now desire of your G--ce is, that your Porter may have Or-
ders I

" deny you to let me in, if such a
 " Visit be agreeable to your G--ce, and if
 " not, that I may be told so, nor to give an
 " unnecessary Trouble to you or MYSELF."

I had heard this Paragraph so applauded for the honest Plainness of it, at the first Appearance of your Piece, that I verily believe I was hindered by Prepossession from considering it afterwards, when I took the whole under Examination.

But, with Submission, Great Sir, is a Servant of the C——n, who has been recalled, and sent up to Town upon some Suspicion of Misconduct, so much the Master of his own Time and Person, as to say This and This, *I will or shall do*, before I go to such a Place, without first consulting whether he has Liberty to go any where, or do any thing, before he has given an Account of his own Conduct?

And as to the latter Part of this polite Application, the Favour desired of his G--ce, that he would not give you any Trouble, it puts me in mind of a Story of some Alderman of Ockingbam, who, having entertained a great Duke in the Town-houle, (I think it was the late Duke of Northumberland) and being willing to close all with an elegant Speech, desired his Grace, whenever he came that Way, to make so free as to trouble the Corporation again.

I should

I should not, Sir, have descended to be critical upon your Language, (which every Reader will see I have not been on any other Occasion) if the Words quoted had not contained some very strong Lines of the Character I have been delineating, as these before us, I think, evidently do. You are certainly at Liberty, Sir, to use what Manner of Writing you please, or can, and the more Far-like, perhaps the more acceptable it would be to the Public; (nor indeed is there any Necessity, in the Nature of Things, that a good Ad--I should be a delicate Author): But there is a Respect of Persons, that will always inspire, to a Man of good Sense and Education, a certain modest Address to Those of superior Rank, which will infallibly secure him from treating them with a Familiarity like what appears in the last Period of my Quotation.

Good Sense is a most essential Part of the Idea we have always formed of Mr. * *, and *Education* could not be wanting to the Son of that Gentleman, who, by his Office, was the *Draughtsman of the Ducal Patent in his G--ce's Family* *; (a Piece you have heard much commended for the Elegance of the Stile.) To what then could this Familiarity be owing, if not to one of those swelling

* Vide Specimen, p. 28.

ling Thoughts, which at that Time equal'd you, at least, with the greatest Man in the Kingdom?

I must now tell you, Sir, last of all, that tho' I am myself quite in the Dark, I was under some Apprehensions from your Choler against the Publisher of this Letter; till I heard, to my great Satisfaction, that you do not find Gentlemen so ready as you expected, to execute your Vengeance against innocent People. A Word, Sir, is enough upon this Subject, since it will be understood by Hundreds besides yourself.

F**I****N****I****S**.

